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HARVARD LIBRARY NOTES

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MARCH No. 14 1925

THE BEST THAT HARVARD HAS is always at the service of Yale, and never more freely than when she is trying to surpass something that we are proud of. Just now it is a new library building which ought to be very good indeed, for which Harvard's experience has been called upon to help Yale's determination to make it the best ever.

Dr. Coolidge and Mr. Lane spent the day at New Haven, February 20, examining the plans for the new Yale library and explaining what has been learned from the administration of the Harvard building.

Miss Tucker attended a special meeting of the New York Regional Group of Cataloguers, held at New Haven on February 12, at the invitation of Miss Monrad of the Yale staff, to explain the good and bad points in the Harvard Catalogue Room, and especially to point out the importance of abundant space for this department in planning the new Yale building.

* * *

THE GIFT by a member of the Visiting Committee of a dozen English plays and poetical works, printed during the first three decades of the seventeenth century, awakened more active interest in one of the checked lists which Mr. Potter keeps within reach to guide him in deciding on possible purchases. This is W. W. Greg's 'List of English Plays written before 1643 and printed before 1700,' issued by the English Bibliographical Society.

The present 'score' for the authors whose works were included in this recent gift is as follows. For George

Chapman, Harvard now has 12 of the 27 editions described by Mr. Greg; for Samuel Daniel, 5 out of 16; for Sir William D'Avenant, 21 out of 22, the only edition still needed being the second, 1659, issue of 'The Siege of Rhodes.' For Thomas Heywood we have 16 out of Greg's 44; for John Lyly, only 2 out of 13; and for John Marston, 4 out of 16. Philip Massinger is another of the authors upon whom we have specialized, having 18 of the 22 titles in Greg. Thomas Middleton is fairly well represented by 15 of Greg's 33 editions.

Some of the other playwrights of the early seventeenth century for whom we have a creditable representation are Beaumont and Fletcher, with 46 of Greg's 66 editions; Lodowick Carlell, with all but one of Greg's 8 titles; William Cavendish, Duke of Newcastle, the 3 editions; Abraham Cowley, 6 out of 7; Henry Glapthorne, 5 out of 6; Thomas Goffe, the 5 in Greg; Thomas May, 6 out of 8; Jasper Mayne, the 4, but one of these is imperfect; William Rowley, 5 out of 6; George Sandys, the 3; James Shirley, 33 out of 38; and John Webster, 11 out of 15. These figures show clearly how the Harvard collection has been developed. Since the establishment of the Frank E. Chase fund three years ago, it has been possible to plan a definite campaign to strengthen the collection in this particular field. The Chase money is being devoted to the earlier editions, so that we may confidently look ahead to a steady improvement in the quality as well as in the range of our early English drama.

* * *

A FIRST EDITION of one of Dr. Holmes's poems which the Library did not possess has been presented by Stedman B. Hoar, '15. It is a one-page broadside, in the types of the *Atlantic Monthly*, for which the verses were written as a tribute to James Russell Lowell, upon his death in 1891, appearing in the magazine for October of that year. This copy bears the presentation inscription 'E. R. Hoar with the kind regards of O. W. Holmes.'

CHARLES H. TAYLOR, '90, has added to the collection of Harvard documents a long letter from Dr. Benjamin Waterhouse, Hersey Professor of the Theory and Practice of Physic, to Rev. Joseph McKean, Boylston Professor of Rhetoric and Oratory, in 1811. The letter deals mostly with the machinations of their several enemies in the faculty, but begins by refusing to accept payment for medical services because 'you Cambridge Professors who live in splendid wretchedness, have no bank bills to throw away. I know this by long experience there, or, to express myself classically — Non ignorara mali miseris succurrere disco. Now to make this speech exactly applicable you have only to add the word 'US' to the second one in the sentence.'

At the same time Mr. Taylor gave an original manuscript of a poem read by Julia Ward Howe at a Musical Service held in Appleton Chapel in commemoration of James Russell Lowell on his birthday, February 22, 1892. It is accompanied by an autograph letter offering the poem to an editor for publication.

Another gift from the same source included four parchment documents recording the lease of farming lands in Framingham by Thomas Danforth, in 1698; the gift of this land to Harvard under the provisions of Danforth's will in 1726; and the sale of it by the Corporation for forty pounds in 1767. The record of sale is signed by President Holyoke, and sealed with the college seal.

* * *

MR. HENRY PLEASANTS of St. Davids, Pa. has presented an interesting manuscript representing the work of an early officer of the College, Charles Morton. He was one of the ejected ministers who took refuge in Massachusetts in 1686 and was settled as minister of Charlestown from 1688 to his death in 1698. Both in England and in America he had been a skillful instructor of youth and his Compendium of Natural Philosophy or Physics became the accepted textbook in Harvard College

for a large part of the 18th century. It was copied again and again by undergraduates for their own use and several of these copies are still extant in the College Library and in the collections of the Massachusetts Historical Society. He was a Fellow of the College from 1692, and during the last year of his life, 'Vice-President.'

The manuscript received from Mr. Pleasants is a systematic treatise on 'Pneumaticks or the Doctrine of Spirits' including a study of the nature and attributes of God, of Angels, of the Soul of Man and of the Souls of Brutes.' This covers 128 pages and is followed by a treatise entitled 'Ethicks and its End' covering 36 pages. Many pages at the end of the book have been cut or torn out, but there remains 'Mr. Morton's advise to young Scholars Ingadgeing in the work of the Ministry Under ye present discouraging Circumstances,' which was printed in Calamy's 'Continuation of the Account of the Ministers, etc. Ejected 1660.' It is not clear whether the present manuscript is in the author's hand or not. No other copy of the Pneumatics and Ethics is known, and so far as appears these treatises were not used as textbooks in the College. W. C. L.

* * *

THE LATEST BOX FROM LONDON, containing almost wholly continuations on the outstanding permanent orders, gives an idea of the extent to which the Library grows regularly, and the funds are as regularly depleted, by commitments of this sort. A few of the titles, taken as they come from the box, are; Lutenist Song Writers, Royal Commission on Historical Monuments, Society for Propagating Christian Knowledge, World Association for Adult Education, Masters of Engraving and Etching, Songs of the Hebrides, Vasari Society, Royal Cornwall Polytechnic Society, Gaelic Booklets, the International Psycho-Analytical Society, National Home Reading Pamphlets (the order is for books about Alexander Pope),

Southampton Record Society, Shropshire Archaeological Society, Occult Review, Scottish Ecclesiological Society, Publications to Commemorate the Tercentenary of Henry Briggs' Publication of the Arithmetica Logarithmica, 1624, Navy Records Society, Surtees Society, Dugdale Society, Yorkshire Archaeological Society, Co-operative Union Papers, Debrett's Peerage, Alcuin Club, Choresby Society (Parish Registers), Yearbook of Church of England, Historic Society of Lancaster & Cheshire, and the Transactions C. & W. A. & A. S. N. S. XXIV (whatever this binder's title may mean.)

* * *

ANDRÉ MORIZE, Professor of French Literature, has recently given the Library a copy of the eighth, and definitive, edition of La Bruyère's 'Caracteres of Theophraste, avec Les Moeurs de ce Siècle,' Paris, 1694, on the margins of which a contemporary owner wrote the names of the individuals referred to in the text. The Library now has each edition from the third to the eleventh, excepting the seventh. It has also one of the counterfeit editions with 'Paris, 1700' on the title but actually printed in all probability in Holland.

* * *

MR. CURRIER reported Jan. 27 that the Catalogue department had in hand books in the following languages, the approximate number of items being in parentheses: Portuguese plays (1500); French, mostly scientific (2600); Italian Resorgimento (500); Dutch (2000); Scandinavian (450); Greek (85); Breton (30); Rumanian (15); Polish (200); Chinese and Japanese (150); other Oriental (100); Bibles, mostly South Sea languages (170); Siamese (20); Ethiopian (10); Celtic (200); Slovak (20); African (50). A large invoice of Hungarian books had just been cleared up at that date. Another language that no longer figures in this list is Georgian. The titles of books in this tongue are kept in a separate drawer in the catalogue, and for

some time this contained at the end a separate batch of cards, preceeded by one which stated, to those who could read between the lines, that these books were late accessions which had been set up on the shelves, and their titles placed here in the catalogue, in the order in which the books were received, because there was nobody who could read them, in the absence of Mr. Blake. Since his return, this has happily all been set right.

* * *

IN THE FIRST EDITION of 'Yarrow Revisited and Other Poems' London, 1835, is pencilled in Wordsworth's hand a sonnet 'To Miss Sellon,' beginning:

> The vestal priestess of a Sisterhood,
> Who knew no self, and whom the selfish scorn,
> She seeks a wilderness of weed and thorn.

This is signed and dated, Ambleside February 22nd, 1849.

Priscilla Lydia Sellon was the foundress of one of the earliest of the nineteenth century Anglican sisterhoods, the Sisters of Mercy of the Holy Trinity, and her activity in establishing schools and orphanages, as well as in organizing her followers for nursing the victims of cholera and other epidemics, and for work in the Crimea, gave rise to a violent pamphlet controversy which lasted over several years. Wordsworth's verses were written soon after the critics of her activities were beginning their attacks upon this early attempt to enlarge the range of feminism.

Knight in his edition of the poems (1896), while printing the sonnet, questions Wordsworthian authorship, though admitting the handwriting; Lane Cooper in his Concordance (1911) admits the poem with a question mark, following Knight; and recent complete collections of the poems omit it altogether; still, so far as I know, the handwriting has not been questioned, and that is something.

G. W. V.

FROM MR. HORATIO WALPOLE'S LIBRARY

Horace Walpole, more than anyone else of his time, preserved the background of the picture of the latter half of the eighteenth century in England. Whether it is painted by Mr. Murdock, going to London to get a truer perspective on Lexington and Bunker's Hill, or by Professor Kittredge, seeking relatives of Yankee Doodle, or by the newest graduate student elucidating Dr. Johnson to the youngest member of the faculty, the setting comes in large part from the master of Strawberry Hill. This makes it in the highest degree desirable that a library which is called upon to supply material for these and other seekers after a more intimate acquaintance with this period, should be able to assist them to a feeling of familiarity with Walpole's personality.

Nothing contributes to such a feeling, at this distance of time, more than seeing letters which he wrote and handling books which once belonged to him. This became possible at Harvard when the library received not long ago, as a gift from Augustin H. Parker, '97, twenty-two volumes which once stood on the shelves at Strawberry Hill. There can have been few volumes in that library more characteristic of their owner. They form a series, with the title 'A Collection of the most remarkable Poems Published in the Reign of King George the Third.' This title page was specially printed at Walpole's private press, for insertion in these books. There is no record of it in the Journal of the work at the press, although it appears in some of the lists of Strawberry Hill imprints. It can hardly be called rare, in view of the number of copies, but as Harvard apparently possesses all of these, and in a form which would scarcely justify parting with any of them, it must remain the despair of Strawberry Hill collectors.

A Londoner who secured for himself a position in certain

respects not unlike Horace Walpole's, a century later, likewise put on record a bit of his personality in these volumes. Walpole wrote on the inside of each cover a careful list of the titles of the pieces contained in that volume. The series eventually passed into the possession of Henry Labouchere of 'Truth.' He equally carefully pasted his not very interesting bookplate over each of Walpole's list of contents.

These volumes are made up of 342 separately printed poems, or it might be safer to say poetical effusions, issued from 1762 to 1789. A number of them were privately printed, and many of those which appear to have been regularly published must have had a very limited circulation. A few have not been found at the British Museum, but their apparent insignificance may have led the cataloguers of a generation ago to overlook them, for even the greatest of libraries does not expose all of its resources.

Several have presentation inscriptions from the authors, and in one there is a full page of 'emendations' apparently intended by the author for Walpole's private entertainment. The engraved frontispieces range in interest from a rare portrait of Washington issued at London in 1780 to a 'View of the Eastern Aspect of the City of Bagdad,' and they add to the library's examples of the work of Bartolozzi and other lesser artists. Some others are political cartoons, by Hogarth or by those who tried to equal him.

Most of these publications carry the evidence that Walpole read them with attention. He was apt to note on the title page the month, and often the day, when they appeared, which is a matter of consequence for those which were political squibs or stages in a controversy between candidates for literary honors. The anonymous ones also have the author's name added, either as a matter of general knowledge or 'said to be.' Similarly wherever blanks occur in the text or initials with asterisks, in the habitual manner of political controversialists, Walpole supplied the

names, including his own, frequently adding a pithy comment or an explanatory phrase to elucidate the point of the allusion.

Many of these notes are very entertaining, and frequently they throw light on contemporary political, social, or literary annals, each interacting on the others. He explains the family connections of Lady Jerningham at length, after correcting a grammatical slip by her son. Where Mr. Mundy in his partisan eagerness declared of a politician 'Oft has he foiled our hungry pack,' Walpole replaced the first word with 'Once.' In 1762, when

> Pomposo was not heard
> T'impart one crabbed foreign word

he notes that this was 'Johnson the author of the Dictionary.' At the same time Sheridan is 'A player who read lectures on eloquence.' He explains the reference to a boxer of momentary repute when Churchill wrote 'Why must the Heroe with the Nailor vie.' 'Mackreth discoursing on sideboards and glasses' is 'Formerly waiter at White's, now Member of Parliament.' The 'Tot'n'am-Street Subscribers' of 1788 were the 'Society of Ancient Music' of that day. There is a full page of comment on 'Bath, where 'tis fashionable to be foolish, & man has no chance of being thought either who does not send some nonsense to Lady Miller's Vase.' He names the noble dame whose 'Charms amazed the public sight,' explaining that she appeared 'drest like Iphigenia at a Masquerade.'

Coincidences are very puzzling things. One of the most curious is the fact that at the time these volumes came from Mr. Parker, the Order Department was trying to decide whether it could afford to buy four pamphlet poems by William Mason with Horace Walpole's notes. An examination of Mr. Parker's volumes showed that they contained only two of the Mason poems, and that neither of these had any manuscript additions. Clearly the money had to be found for what turned out to be an important supplement to the longer series of volumes.

The four Mason poems are stitched together, with a manuscript title page, 'Notes to the later Poems of the Reverend Mr. William Mason by Mr. Horace Walpole, 1779,' in Walpole's well-known handwriting. The margins were not sufficient for the annotator's purposes, and he inserted numerous blank leaves between the pages, and filled these with extended comments. The title is followed by an 'Introduction' which states that:

> Mr. Mason's earlier poems, being written on general Subjects, want no exposition. His later works, tho equally clear and intelligible to the present age, abound in allusions to persons & events of the times; and would become obscure to Posterity, unless accompanied by some account of the anecdotes referred to, which often are barely hinted at.

Harvard may fairly claim to be a 'Temple of Fame, where Mr. Mason's works will be for ever preserved.' It already had them, although not in the editions (one is the 14th, another the 9th, and a third the 4th) bound together by Walpole. The spirit of his comments may be inferred from a few further extracts from the Introduction:

> Some of his Heroes indeed must be registered in History. Their crimes and blunders have brought such misfortunes and disgrace on their Country, that their names will be inseperable from the annals of England. . . . Shebbeare, Sr. John Dalrymple, Macpherson and Dr. Johnson were Assassins pensioned to asperse the Champion & Martyrs of Freedom, & to recommend the chains & massacres prepared for America.
>
> Dr. Johnson, who confounds all Truth, as much as all Taste, endeavours to make mankind believe, contrary to their Senses, that few now read the Dispensary . . . & his own unequalled Vanity prompted him to flatter himself that his clumsy and tasteless pages of bombast biography woud persuade the World to believe him rather than their own eyes & judgment. . . . Dr. Tucker Dean of Gloucester wrote a confutation, as he fancied, of Mr. Locke's Treatise on Government & the University of Oxford, once more devoted to the Cause of Ignorance, gave its Sanction to the Priest's work.
>
> Horace Walpole.

Harvard, however, has not had to wait until this late day for books from Walpole's library. One of these came in 1905 as a part of Professor Norton's collection. It contains the two parts of 'The Trial of George Gordon, Esq.;

Commonly called Lord George Gordon, London, 1781,' and has Walpole's small bookplate pasted on the title, two portraits added and a contemporary newspaper clipping. There are a number of manuscript notes, ranging from 'Not an English word' against 'rebutts,' to a long comment beginning 'This is the least solid part of his (Erskine's) argument, yet very artfull.'

The next year, among the books from the library of Martin Brimmer, a member of the Corporation from 1877 to 1896, which were given by Mrs. Brimmer, was Walpole's copy of 'The Golden Boke of Marcus Aurelius Emperour and eloquent oratour,' printed at London by Thomas Berthelet in 1553.

The library also has 'The Poems of Henry Howard Earl of Surrey,' London, 1717, with a long and characteristic, but unimportant, note by Walpole on the fly leaf, and the 1668 edition of Bacon's Essays, containing the bookplate.

More important than any of the foregoing is a volume which came to Harvard from Charles Sumner in 1874. This contains the bookplate and a list (15 items, but incomplete) of contents in Walpole's hand on the inside of the cover. On the fly leaf is a note:

> This Volume I bought at Strawberry Hill. It contains some curious Portraits, and caricatures of Pope. (The Plan of Pope's Garden and Grotto is extremely rare.) also Views of Pope's House, &c. and a curious Portrait of Mrs. Katharine Phillips (see "The Crooked Sixpence.) . . . The very rare Caricature of Pope, to which he refers in his noble Epistle to Dr. Arbuthnot. . . .
>
> George Daniel
>
> Canonbury 1842.

A generous graduate in 1910, by the gift of the Marshall C. Lefferts Pope collection, placed the library in a position where it is beyond the fear of rivalry in this subject. It has been able to build strongly around the Lefferts books, but as a pendant to that collection, nothing could be more satisfying than this volume which the binder labelled 'Things about Pope Collected by H. Walpole.'

Mr. Parker added to his gift an autograph letter written

by Walpole to George Colman, on May 10, 1783, thanking him for and commenting on the translation of Horace's 'Art of Poetry.' This is printed in the definitive edition of Walpole's Letters, and is useful as showing what liberties the editor took with the originals. The variations are unimportant, unless one wishes to know that Walpole was an early spelling reformer, regularly omitting the l from the words which he wrote 'woud' and 'shoud.'

The Theatre Collection also has a letter from Walpole, tucked away by Augustin Daly in the extra-illustrated copy of his monumental life of Peg Woffington which was secured by Mr. Shaw. This was addressed to George Augustus Selwyn on August 12, 1758. This letter is not included in Mrs. Paget Toynbee's edition, and was apparently written later in the day than the two known letters of that date, as it transmits news from the army in France which Walpole had just received.

Besides these letters and the marginal annotations, there are a few memoranda in Walpole's hand, together with one or two which may have been made by his printer, Thomas Kirgate. The latter acted as secretary and cultivated a handwriting which is occasionally indistinguishable from his master's. These memoranda are inserted in one of the extra-illustrated volumes in the Harry Elkins Widener collection. Most of them are notes for the books upon which Walpole was engaged. One, unfortunately incomplete, apparently refers to one of the Strawberry Hill publications. It reads:

	68 : 15 : 0
	48 : 7 : 0
Profit	20 : 8 : 0
Sewed in Blue Paper only a saving will be made of	2 : 1 : 8

The missing portion of the paper contained the items which foot up to 48 : 7 : 0, and presumably these made up the actual cost of the printing. The fragment was pre-

served because it had on the back pencil drawings of two Greek vases 'In the great Parlour under the great table' and 'In the Great Parlour, over the Chimney.'

The same volume in the Harry Elkins Widener collection contains a printed slip which seems to be otherwise unknown to students of the Strawberry Hill press. It reads, within a border;

Vignettes and Fleurons,
from books
Printed at Strawberry-Hill.

This suggests that there may have been an undiscovered Specimen Sheet of the ornaments which made up the printer's stock at Strawberry Hill.

THE LAWRENCE BEQUEST

By Garrett Mattingly

By the bequest of the late John S. Lawrence, '78, of Grand Rapids, Michigan, the most valuable part of his extensive collection of the Greek and Latin classics comes at last to the Harvard Library, long, in the intention of its owner, its ultimate destination. An enthusiastic collector from his undergraduate days, Mr. Lawrence had upon several occasions presented the Library with desirable volumes, and about thirteen years ago he carefully arranged and labelled all his books so that on their final disposal Harvard should receive no unwanted duplicates.

As a result of this forethought the Library now profits by more than three hundred volumes, many of them admirable specimens of printing, and all of them valuable additions to the shelves of the Classics section. Besides fourteen incunabula, the Lawrence bequest contains specimens of the work of Froben, the Estiennes, Plantin, Elzevir and other celebrated printers. Other rare and famous books are: a Claudian, remarkable alike for its accuracy and its scarcity, printed in Vienna in 1510; the

Tonson Caesar of 1711, printed by subscription of the British peerage, with a dedication to the Duke of Marlborough, and containing some of the finest work of English engravers of the period; the 'De Situ Orbis' of Pomponius Mela printed by Bishop at Exeter in the same year, easily the best edition of this once admired authority; the Hamilton and Balfour Sallust (Edinburgh 1754), called the 'immaculate edition'; the Wilkes Catullus printed on a wager by Nichols (London 1788) and containing not a single error; and a fine example of the eighteenth century engraved book, Virgil's Eclogues (London, Henry Justice, 1760) with hand illumination.

Besides the classics that were his especial hobby, Mr. Lawrence included a few books which, although slightly outside the field of his chief interest, testify to his discrimination as a collector. Through his generosity, the Library is fortunate in the possession of an early edition of the first Renaissance translation of Virgil into French by Michel de Tours and Octavien de Saint-Gelais printed by Couteau at Paris in 1532 and illustrated with many curious woodcuts; a volume of the collected Latin works of Martin Luther (first edition, Wittenberg, 1550), now remarkable for its scarcity; the first editions of the Italian translations of the histories of Poggio Bracciolini and Bruneto Latini, both Florence, 1485; and the first complete edition of Vasari's Lives of the Painters, that of 1568.

In accordance with the wish of Mr. Lawrence himself the bequest will not be retained as a special collection but, as usual, a bookplate will be placed in each volume in memory of the donor.

Mr. Lawrence's sister, Mrs. Mary Lawrence Loomis, who was the executor of his estate, added to the gift a splendid fifteenth century manuscript Choir Book. This massive volume, its pages brilliant with illuminated letters, is in its old leather binding, with metal corners. It had formed so distinguished a part of their library, that she felt that it ought also to go with his books to Harvard.

COLERIDGE AND WORDSWORTH

By George M. Vogt

To the generosity of Mr. Norton Perkins, '98, the Harvard Library owes another one of those valuable additions to its collection which have made it the leading research center in this country. The gift consists of Coleridge and Wordsworth manuscripts and first editions. What enhances the value of some of these 'firsts' is that they were presentation copies from the authors and contain annotations and corrections in the poets' hands.

The first edition of the 'Sibylline Leaves,' London, 1817, was a presentation copy to 'Miss Ford in testimony of respect and regard from S. T. Coleridge Highgate, 29 July 1829,' and opposite that stanza of the 'Ancient Mariner' beginning 'The Sun's rim dips; the Stars rush out': is written in Coleridge's hand: 'Within the Tropics there is no Twilight. At the moment, the *second*, that the Sun sinks, the Stars appear all at once as if at the word of command announced by the evening Gun, in our W. India Islands.'

Other presentation copies are: 'Zapolya: a Christmas Tale, in Two Parts, London, 1817 (first edition): 'To Robert Jameson from S. T. Coleridge'; 'Biographia Literaria,' London, 1817 (first edition): 'Josiah Wade Esq. in testimony of grateful Regard from the obliged Author.'

Presentation copies from the authors are always of especial interest even when they are not also first editions, since the sentimental bibliophile may permit himself the luxury of the revery that, as some one has said, if the fly leaf on which the author has inscribed his compliments had only been sensitive like a photographic film it would flash to us his pleased or bored countenance as he wrote; at all events the poet's face did once shine upon the paper, photographic plate or not; and anyhow the sheet received

the impress of the author's hand as he wrote. The presentation copy means that the author has viewed his work as it has come hot from the press and seen that it was good, and to the student it comes as peculiarly *from* its creator.

Speaking of first editions once in the possession of the great, the Library owns Charles Lamb's copy of Coleridge's 'Fears in Solitude' (1798), which came to it with Professor Norton's library. Scarcely less thrilling is the copy of 'The White Doe of Rylstone,' 1815, which was 'Bought at the Sale of Lord Byron's Library, April 6, 1816.'

Among other first editions are: Coleridge's first book, 'The Fall of Robespierre. An Historic Drama,' Cambridge, 1794; the first book of poems published by Coleridge, 'Poems on Various Subjects, by S. T. Coleridge, Late of Jesus College Cambridge, London: Printed for G. G. and J. Robinsons, and J. Cottle, Bookseller, Bristol, 1796'; an especially interesting first edition of Coleridge's 'Remorse, A Tragedy, In five Acts.' London, 1813, being the original prompt copy used at the representation, interleaved and filled with cuts, additions and alterations from Coleridge's manuscript by W. H. West; the translation by Coleridge into English verse (the Hebrew printed on opposite pages) of 'A Hebrew Dirge, Chaunted in the Great Synagogue, St. James's Place, Aldgate, on the Day of the Funeral of her Royal Highness the Princess Charlotte,' London, 1817; in 'The Excursion,' London, 1814, is inserted an autograph letter of Wordsworth's.

Among the manuscripts is a letter from Coleridge to John Morgan, Esq., dated July 14, 1814. It was written while Coleridge was under the care of Dr. Daniel, who tried to restore the poet's health by limiting his consumption of opium. Coleridge gives many details of his health and the effects of the diminution of the 'poison dose.' The letter also contains interesting references to Mr. George Beaumont and Allston, the artists, and a caustic criticism of

Southey's 'Joan of Arc,' the first quarto edition of which he had looked over, at Hood's request, to mark the lines he (Coleridge) had contributed.

There is also the original manuscript of prefaces to his poems, containing the abandoned preface of February 27 and the March 6 preface to the second edition of the Poems; and there are eight letters to Joseph Cottle, written in 1796 and 1797, and one letter from John Thelwall to Dr. Campton of March 5, 1798 in reference to Coleridge.

No attempt has been made to mention everything in the collection; only a few of the total number of items have been included. But the importance of the gift both to bibliophiles and students is evident.

OXFORD vs HARVARD

'The Bodleian Quarterly Record,' to which these Harvard 'NOTES' renews its expression of filial respect, gives in its latest issue a list of Wordsworth Desiderata. The opportunity to compare the standing of the Harvard collection with that at Oxford was welcome, because we have recently received an important addition to the Wordsworth first editions. If the comparison seems to show the younger institution ahead for the moment, it is set forth with the sincerest hope that the friends of Oxford have already taken the hint of 'B. Q. R.,' and put the Bodleian at least on equal footing.

The Oxford collection lacked, when the list was compiled, 24 titles, dated before 1852. Of these, Harvard has nine, and it lacks at least two which Oxford has, on the basis of the 'editiones principes' in Thomas J. Wise's Bibliography of Wordsworth. These two are the 'Lyrical Ballads,' of 1805, and the 1822 'Description of the Scenery of the Lakes in the North of England'.

There are two of Harvard's nine, and these two are Wordsworth's first publications, of which the library is

the lucky possessor of two copies. They can hardly be considered duplicates, and so available for a possible exchange with our elder — shall we say, aunt, inasmuch as Cambridge is Harvard's mother University? — because the copies in the Harry Elkins Widener collection are perfect and untrimmed, whereas those which came from Professor Norton's library lack the title pages and all the margins have been cut away, but they once belonged to Charles Lamb and have many notes in his handwriting. There are cripples whom one loves best of all.

A few others of Harvard's Wordsworth first editions belonged formerly to interesting persons or contain presentation inscriptions written by the poet. 'The White Doe of Rylstone,' 1815, was 'Bought at the sale of Lord Byron's Library April 6, 1816. S. W. S.', the initials being those of Samuel W. Singer, the feather- and flower-maker, who became an editor of Shakespeare and Librarian of the Royal Society. 'The Excursion' is inscribed 'From the Author. R. J.'; and 'Yarrow Revisited' has 'Miss Watson with the affectionate Regards of Wm. Wordsworth.' The privately printed 'Grace Darling' has, like all the other known copies, the poet's autograph signature at the end. Three volumes containing the works which first appeared between 1815 and 1820 were given to the Library by Mrs. James T. Fields, and have on a fly leaf the note, 'The alterations are in the handwriting of Wordsworth.' They were given to Mr. Field in 1859 by the naturalist Edward Jesse, who had received them in turn from Rev. Hugh James Rose, Principal of King's College, London, who wrote on the title that 'The alterations written in Ms are taken from the edition of 1827.'

On the title of one copy of the Poems of 1842 is written 'John Carter from Wm. Wordsworth.' and on the other 'To his beloved Friend Isabelle Fenwick from William Wordsworth . . Rydal Mount, 17 April 1842.' The author inscribed the Poems of 1845 'Sarah Greenwood written

by William Wordsworth Rydal Mount 25 July 1846.' The 'Prelude' of 1850 has on the title John Gibson Lockhart's signature, dated Aug. 2 1850. Several of the first editions in the Harry Elkins Widener collection also contain the bookplate of Frederick Locker Lampson.

The most interesting of these 'association' copies is the Poems of 1815 which came with Mr. Perkins's gift. It contains a note addressed 'To the Editor of the Examiner. To be sent with a Copy of Mr. W's Poems,' re-addressed to 'Mr. L. Hunt.' The communication reads: 'Mr. Wordsworth presents his Compliments to Mr. Hunt and begs his Acceptance of the accompanying volumes, Mr. W. being induced to take this liberty by a conversation which he had last summer, with Mr. Broughan, on which occasion Mr. W. heard with pleasure, that his writings were valued by Mr. Hunt. Rydal Mount Febry 12th 1815.'

The autograph manuscript of a sonnet, entitled 'The Stone-pine of Monte Mario at Rome,' dated at Rydal Mount, March, 1839, formerly in the Huth collection, came with the Harry Elkins Widener library.

Besides the books, Mr. Perkins's gift included a number of autograph letters from the poet or from members of his family. Four of these were written by Wordsworth to Mrs. Hemans in 1831, 1833 and 1834; one to Allan Cunningham in 1834; and five to Rev. R. P. Graves from 1835 to 1850, from whose descendants most of these letters came. Others are by his brother Christopher and the latter's son of the same name, by Dorothy Wordsworth, by his son John, announcing the father's death to Mr. Graves, by Mrs. Mary Wordsworth, and by Mrs. Dora (Wordsworth) Quillinan. The Library has two other letters from Wordsworth in the Charles Sumner collection, one addressed to John Kenyon in 1838 and the other to Basil Montagu.

Another letter to Montagu congratulates him on the completion of his 'important and laborious work' which

had been sent to Wordsworth in sheets, while it was being printed, and concludes:

> The baser part & it is to be feared much the larger of the Whigs having made common cause with the Enemies of the British Constitution, I concur with you that the prospect of the Government and the Nation is indeed a sad one. All this was distinctly forseen by the national part of the Community from the first broaching of the Reform bill. Good & discreet men must act cleaving to the Roman virtue of never despairing of the Country. This they must do for Conscience sake, whatever comes of it.
>
> Ever faithfully yours
>
> W. Wordsworth
>
> Rydal Mount, Jan'y 1st, 1935

Three volumes that were once in the library at Rydal Mount, together with the 'Catalogue of the varied and valuable Historical, Poetical, Theological, and Miscellaneous Library of the late venerated Poet-Laureate, William Wordsworth, Esquire, D.C.L., last, not least, of the line of Lake Minstrels; . . . which will be sold at auction, at that haunt of hallowed memories Rydal Mount, near Ambleside, Windermere; on the 19th, 20th, and 21st, days of July, 1859' came with Professor Norton's library. The three volumes, each of which contains the poet's autograph, are;

ROMANAE HISTORIAE ANTHOLOGIA RECOGNITA ET AUCTA. An English exposition. For the use of Abingdon Schoole. (By Thomas Godwyn) Oxford, 1623.

> This also has the autographs of two earlier owners, John Bee his Booke Price 3s. 6d., and Edwd. Rowlandson's 1756.

THE LIFE AND REIGN OF KING HENRY THE EIGHTH. Written by Edward Lord Herbert of Cherbury. London, 1683.

VOCABOLARIO ITALIANO & INGLESE: First Compiled by John Florio: And augmented by Gio. Torriano. Now Reprinted by J(ohn) D(avis.) London, 1688.

> This has the autograph of 'B. Hutchinson, 1773.10/6,' who was presumably the father, or a relative, of Mary Hutchinson, Wordsworth's wife. At the sale it was bought by John Tatham of Rydal, whose signature is dated July, 1859.

Besides the auction catalogue, the library has in the Harry Elkins Widener collection a small leather bound

blank book labelled 'Account of the Books lent out of the Library at Rydal Mount.' The entries, in the handwriting of various members of the family, are in three columns headed 'Name & description of Books By whom taken out Date.' They begin on August 25, 1824 and end March, 1858. Mr. Perkins has matched this by presenting another smaller blank book with Wordsworth's signature at one end and the date, Octr 1829, at the other, containing the titles of books in his library. They are listed by classes;

Books illust. of Classics
of Modern Languages
Books of Amusement
Books not referable as Classics
History &c
Law & Politics
Mod: Languag:
Natural History &c.
Novels & Romances
Philosophy
Poetry
Theology
Translations
Voyages, Travels, &c.

At the other end of the volume are eight pages of pencilled titles, evidently written hastily by Wordsworth, who added at a later date the note, 'The above sent to Coleridge.' The classified titles are followed by two pages headed 'Mr. Coleridge's Books not traced out & marked off in preceding Catalogue.' This shorter list begins with 'Boetius Consol. of Philosophy' and ends with the 'Bp: of Winchester's Sermons. Clarkson's Slave Trade 5 cop. 19 Books of Music.' G. P. W.

A DICKENS SOUVENIR

Mrs. Felton brought to the Library one day last spring a handful of books as a gift from Professor Felton's library. One is a copy of the first edition (collectors will want to know that it has yellow endpapers) of 'A Christmas Carol,' inscribed 'C. C. Felton From his affectionate Friend Charles Dickens. New Year's Day 1844.' The Library possesses in the Sumner collection a letter written by Dickens to Charles Sumner in March, 1842, in which he says, 'I miss Felton sadly. Half the pleasure of my world,

as Charles Lamb says, has gone with him. I used to remonstrate with him on his eating so many oysters — at such a distance from home. He commonly took them fried. Perhaps that saved him. I would give — I hardly know what I would not give — to have him at No. 1 Devonshire Terrace, York Gate, Regents Park, London; for I have a sincere affection for him.'

A manuscript diary, from May 3 to June 20, 1853, kept by Professor Felton in London and Paris, begins 'This morning I took a cab and drove to Dickens in Tavistock Square. . . . (He was not at home.) Returned to Chapman's. In a few moments a note came in from Dickens, begging me not to call yet on Foster, as he was seized with a horrible desire to introduce me to him as Prof. Stowe. I joined him at the Household Words Office. Found him much the same as I left him 11 years ago in New York. We took a long stroll about London.' At dinner that afternoon, Dickens had his joke and Professor Felton impersonated the husband of Mrs. Stowe for a while, but not long enough to produce the anticipated awkward situation. Some days later, dining again at Tavistock Square, he found himself once more addressed as Professor Stowe, and appealed to for an explanation of the table raisings which were then the chief topic of London drawing rooms. 'I continued the conversation with the gentleman, who agreed with me entirely, and laughed at the whole thing. On enquiry I found that he was George Cruikshank, and she was a Mrs. Crowe, the author of a book called the night-side of Nature or some similar shadowy title, and a firm believer in every impossibility that turns up. There was a pretty scrape to get into.'

CONCERNING THE LIBRARY

REMOTE CORNERS OF WIDENER. I. Records of Massachusetts Hall. By William C. Lane. In the Crimson Bookshelf, November, 1924.

II. Old College Customs. In the Crimson Bookshelf for January, 1925. Reprinted in the Alumni Bulletin for Jan. 8.

THE HARVARD COLLEGE LIBRARY, 1723–1735. By Alfred C. Potter. Transactions of the Colonial Society of Massachusetts, 1922–1924; pp. 1–13.

NEW HAMPSHIRE'S PART IN RESTORING THE LIBRARY AND APPARATUS OF HARVARD AFTER THE FIRE OF 1764, by William C. Lane. Transactions of the Colonial Society, 1922–1924, pp. 23–33.

MANUSCRIPT LAWS OF HARVARD COLLEGE, 1642–1767, by W. C. Lane. Transactions of the Colonial Society, 1922–24, pp. 244–253.

A UNIQUE LIBRARY ACQUISITION. In Harvard Business School Section of Harvard Alumni Bulletin, Oct. 23.

Describing a gift from the Maryland Historical Society to the Business School library, of the correspondence of Isaac Briggs and James P. Stabler.

TWO MANUSCRIPTS CONNECTED WITH THE HARVARD COMMENCEMENT OF 1759, by William C. Lane. Transactions of the Colonial Society, 1922–1924, pp. 355–360.

2600 PEOPLE A DAY, 200 AN HOUR, 3⅓ A MINUTE, CLIMB UP AND DOWN WIDENER LIBRARY STEPS. Interview with the Library doorman, in Harvard Crimson, Nov. 11.

STUDIES IN PATERNALISM. I. The Chaperons at Widener. Editorial in Harvard Advocate, Nov. 14.

A protest against the placing of "The Memoirs of Casanova" in the Library's 'Inferno,' although a professor had recommended it to his students.

DEFENDS LIBRARY POLICY OF CENSORSHIP. A statement by Mr. Lane in the Harvard Crimson, Nov. 18, in reply to the Advocate.

The same issue of the Crimson contained an interview with Professor Raiche of the French department, and an editorial commenting on the question.

MRS. GRUNDY SEES IT THROUGH. Editorial in the Advocate, Dec. 15.

MANUSCRIPTS SHOWN IN WIDENER. Notice in the Crimson, Nov. 26.

Exhibition in commemoration of John Harvard's 317th birthday anniversary.

How Long, Oh Lord? Editorial in the Crimson, Nov. 28.
On the use made of the Widener building by the Business School library. The Crimson for Dec. 1 contained a reply by D. E. Faville of the Business School.

University gets Rare Coleridge Manuscripts. Crimson, Dec. 2.
A statement by Mr. Winship concerning the books given by Norton Perkins, '98.

The Perkins Gift. By Professor John L. Lowes. In the Crimson Bookshelf for January, 1925.

Rare Gift of Coleridge Manuscripts on Exhibit. In Crimson, Jan. 28.

Sneak Thieves at work in Widener. A Letter to the Crimson by Mr. Lane, Dec. 8.
An editorial in the same issue is headed "Worse than Horse Thieves."

Number of Missing Books nears Record. Interview with Mr. Mahady in the Crimson, Dec. 10.

Librarian makes Example of Widener Book Thieves. Statement in the Crimson, Feb. 2.

A 17th Century Manuscript. In the Crimson, Jan. 1, 1925.
A statement by Mr. Lane of the gift, by Mr. Henry Pleasants of St. Davids, Pennsylvania, of a treatise on "Pneumatics or the Doctrine of Spirits," written by Charles Morton, an early officer of the college.

Animals acted queerly during Eclipse a Century Ago. In the Crimson, Jan. 24.
Note on a newspaper presented by C. H. Taylor and exhibited in the Library.

A Professor of Books. Editorial in the Crimson, Jan. 22.
A request for "a friendly, confident guide" through the mazes of the library.

Ivy from Dickens' Home features Birthday Display. Notice in Crimson, Feb. 7.

The Dickens Theatre Exhibition. In the Alumni Bulletin, Feb. 12.

University Celebrates Lincoln's Birthday by Exhibiting Lincolnian Treasures. Notice in the Crimson, February 12.

Elizabethan Books in the Library. In the Alumni Bulletin, Feb. 12
A statement by Mr. Winship of the gift mentioned on page 17, with a list of the books.

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